

A DESCRIPTION OF ORGANIZATION FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The focus of the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) is on both housing issues and municipal concerns and in both areas the Department serves as the lead state agency. The present responsibilities of DHCD illustrate the recognition by the Executive and Legislative branches of the Commonwealth that the problems which confront our cities and towns can be addressed most effectively by the establishment of a state level agency concerned with local issues, housing and community development.

DHCD, formerly known as the Executive Office of Communities and Development, continues to be concerned with solving these problems and acts as the leading advocate for local governments and community agencies. In this role DHCD makes state and federal funds and technical assistance available to strengthen communities and help them plan new developments, encourage economic development, revitalize older areas, improve local government management, build and manage public housing, stimulate affordable housing through the private sector and respond to the needs of low-income people. The Department administers the state's public housing programs, coordinates its anti-poverty efforts, allocates federal community development program funds and provides a variety of services to local government officials.

THE DIRECTOR / EXECUTIVE OFFICE

The Director, appointed by the Governor, administers and maintains executive authority over all phases of departmental activities and coordinates policy with the Governor and the rest of the Administration. The Director is a member of the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Housing Development Finance Corporation, Community Economic Development Assistance Corporation and the Local Government Advisory Committee. In addition, the Director of DHCD is a member of numerous other state boards and commissions. The Office of the Director includes the office of the Deputy Director for Policy and the Deputy Director for Administration and Finance as well as the Office of the Chief Counsel.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF COUNSEL

The Office of the Chief Counsel serves as legal counsel to the Director and acts on behalf of the Department to coordinate litigation with Attorney General's Office. This office also processes Public Record Requests and maintains the regulations issued by the Department.

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

The Department of Housing and Community Development is responsible for a diverse number of programs and services that are administered through four divisions, each headed by an associate director.

DIVISION OF NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

Sandra Hawes, Acting Associate Director, 617-727-7004

The Division is responsible for planning, implementing and monitoring the delivery of federal and state anti-poverty, neighborhood economic development, housing consumer education, fuel assistance, and weatherization programs across the Commonwealth, working in cooperation with the federal government, other state agencies, local and regional nonprofits and the private sector.

DIVISION OF MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT

Toni Coyne Hall, Acting Associate Director, 617-727-7001

Community Services concerns itself with the complex problems facing Massachusetts communities and uses the agency's financial and human resources to help municipal governments holistically by building capacity, stabilizing their condition and improving their quality of life. The Division is involved with infrastructure development and improvement, municipal government capacity building, land use planning, local economic development, housing rehabilitation and social services. Community Services also provides direct consulting, information and training services programs to all local governments. The Division also provides a referral service to help communities access the services they need both inside and outside DHCD.

DIVISION OF PUBLIC HOUSING & RENTAL ASSISTANCE

Marc Slotnick, Associate Director, 617-727-7130

This Division has the responsibility for administrative oversight of all state-aided public and private housing programs that address the housing needs of low- and moderate-income families, the elderly and persons with disabilities. The Division is comprised of: the Bureau of Federal Rental Assistance, which cover rental subsidies, upgrading of substandard rental housing and a wide spectrum of support services tied to a rental subsidy; the Bureau of State Rental Assistance, which provides rental subsidies in a flexible way that is more responsive to client choices; the Bureau of Asset Management which oversees the operation and management of 254 local housing authorities and their 49,368 public housing units; the Bureau of Housing Finance which has fiscal oversight of the financial records and capital expenditures of local housing authorities; the Bureau of Housing Development and Construction which has responsibilities for the design, development and construction of new public housing units and the modernization of existing ones; and the Bureau of Housing Inspections which conducts or supervises inspections of residential properties under various state financing, subsidy or other programs.

DIVISION OF PRIVATE HOUSING

Katherine Racer, Associate Director, 617-727-7824

The Division of Private Housing provides affordable homeownership and rental opportunities in the private sector. Among the programs that are administered by the division are those that fund and encourage the development of mixed-income projects sponsored by community housing partnerships and developers, that make housing overstock and foreclosure properties available to first time homebuyers, and that provide advantageous home financing terms for low- and moderate-income families.

OTHER COMPONENTS OF DHCD

These components include the Housing Appeals Committee, the Manufactured Housing Commission, the Massachusetts Neighborhood Crime Watch Commission and the Commission on Indian Affairs.

DHCD ON THE INTERNET

Visit DHCD's website at www.mass.gov/dhcd for FAQ's, regulations and additional publications.

dhcd agency phone numbers

(all numbers are within the 617 area code)

director's office

727-7765

Jane Wallis Gumble, Director

727-7765

Fred M. Habib, Deputy Director

727-7765

Phil Hailer, Chief of Staff/Director of Communications

727-7765

Alex Whiteside, Chief Counsel

727-7078

Tom Simard, Deputy Director for Administration & Finance

727-7147

Sarah Young, Deputy Director for Policy

727-7765

Steve Carvahlo, Legislative Coordinator

727-3600 ext. 35209

division of public housing & rental assistance

727-7130

Marc A. Slotnick, Associate Director

727-7130

Housing Inspections

727-7130

Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program

727-7130

Public Housing Development & Construction

727-7130

Public Housing Energy & Water Conservation

727-7130

Public Housing Finance

727-7130

Public Housing Management & Tenant Services

727-7130

Section 8 Rental Assistance

727-7130

division of private housing

727-7824

Catherine Racer, Associate Director

727-7824

HOME

727-7824

Housing Innovations Fund

727-7824

Housing Stabilization Fund

727-7824

Local Initiative Programs

727-7824

Tax Credits

727-7824

division of municipal development	727-7001
Toni Coyne Hall, Acting Associate Director	727-7001
121A Corporations	727-7001
Community & Economic Development	727-7001
Executive Order 418	727-7001
Manufactured Housing	727-7001
Planning & Municipal Management	727-7001
Regionalism	727-7001
Relocations	727-7001
Zoning	727-7001
division of neighborhood services	727-7004
Sandra Hawes, Acting Associate Director	727-7004
toll free for fuel assistance	(800) 632-8175
Community Enterprise Economic Development Program	727-7004
Community Food and Nutrition Program	727-7004
Community Services Block Grant	727-7004
Energy Conservation Unit	727-7004
Fuel Assistance Unit	727-7004
Housing Services Program	727-7004
McKinney Emergency Services Homeless Grant program	727-7004
massachusetts neighborhood crime watch commission	727-7004
housing appeals committee	727-6192
commission on indian affairs	727-6966
quasi-public agencies	
Community Development Finance Corporation (CDFC)	523-7676
Community Economic Development Assistance Corporation (CEDAC)	727-5944
MassHousing (formerly Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency)	854-1000
Massachusetts Housing Partnership Fund (MHP)	338-7868